

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 23, 2005. Claims 5 to 9 and 17 to 21 remain pending in the application, with Claims 1 to 4, 10 to 16 and 22 to 24 having been cancelled herein. Claims 5 to 7, 17 to 19 are now the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 5 to 9 and 17 to 21 would be allowable if re-written into independent form. Applicants have chosen to rewrite Claims 5 to 7 and 17 to 19 into independent form, while the remaining claims are dependent from of the these independent claims.

Claims 1 to 4, 10 to 16 and 22 to 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by European publication no. 0 822 473 (Ogushi). Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the rejected claims have nonetheless been cancelled, thereby obviating the rejections.

Inasmuch as only allowed claims are now pending in the application, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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